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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. STK-008CN

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Oppermann *et al.*  
SERIAL NO.: 09/754,831 GROUP NO.: 1646  
FILING DATE: January 3, 2001 EXAMINER: E. C. Kemmerer  
TITLE: NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING OSTEOGENIC  
PROTEINS (As Amended)

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office action for the above-identified patent application, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 4, 2004. Applicants believe that no petition or fee is required for entry and consideration of this paper. If any petition or fee is required, please consider this a conditional petition for any required extension of time, and a conditional authorization to charge any required fee to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.